

REMARKS

Claims 15-30 remain in this application. Claims 15 and 30 were amended in this response. No new matter has been introduced as a result of the amendment. Support for the amendments may be found, for example in paragraphs [0014-19]. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 15-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by *Kantola et al.* (US Pub. 2002/003481). Applicant traverses the above rejection. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Specifically, Kantola does not teach or suggest controlling at least one operating parameter of the radio module from a first distance ratio to a smaller distance ratio to influence transfer characteristics as recited in the amended claims. Specifically, the configuration recites a system where a radio station can be distinguished from all other radio stations by being the closest to a transmitting station by gradually reducing the transmission power or reception sensitivity of the radio station to a smaller distance ratio. For example, a first radio station could transmit a first call signal or connection request signal initially at a fairly high transmission power to a first distance ratio so that it has enough range for all of the second radio stations to be able to receive and respond to this signal. Subsequently, the transmission power and/or reception sensitivity of the first radio station can be reduced on a trial basis. Using corresponding operating parameters, each of the second radio stations will drop out until one second radio station present within a smaller distance ratio is left.

In contrast, Kantola teaches away from this configuration by disclosing a system where power is set at a very low level, and then gradually increased (i.e. creating a larger distance ratio) to catch singular users before other users become present (*see* [0021]: “it is extremely disadvantageous if, by mistake, a connection were to be established with any of the other three mobile stations; *see also* [0022], which discusses the avoidance of multiple connections).

In light of the present amendments and arguments, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 15-30 of the present application are both novel and non-obvious over the art of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. It is further submitted that no fees are due in connection with this response at this time. If

any fees are due in connection with this application as a whole, the office is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Deposit Account No.: 02-1818. If such a deduction is made, please indicate the Attorney Docket Number (0112740-1045) on the account statement.

Respectfully submitted,
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